



# MLDS CENTER

Maryland Longitudinal Data System

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** MLDS Governing Board  
**FROM:** Ross Goldstein  
**DATE:** December 2, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** MLDS Center FY 23 Budget

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The Governing Board reviewed and approved the Center's FY 23 annual budget during the June 2022 meeting. With one exception, there have been no changes to the budget or the Center's spending plans to date. The one proposed change is to authorize \$50,000, if available, for the purchase of *Informatica* software. *Informatica* is a data integration tool. After much research and consideration, the IT team has identified this tool as an important resource for standardizing and streamlining the data integration and management processes. We are asking for approval now to be able to procure this software if, as the fiscal year progresses, we find that there are sufficient funds, as a result of savings in other areas, to support this purchase.

In addition, the following updates are provided for your information.

1. A reimbursable fund has been established for the Center to receive funds from the Maryland Department of Labor. The funds are part of the federal Workforce Data Quality Initiative grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. Over three years, approximately \$900,000 in funding will be provided to support the Center's work on the grant, including the two contractual positions that started earlier this year.
2. Another fund was established to allow the Center to collect reimbursement for services provided in support of external research projects. Funds collected cannot be spent until a special fund appropriation is approved by the Maryland Department of Budget and Management and the General Assembly next year. The Center is finalizing invoices for the following projects:
  - a. Baltimore Education Research Consortium - \$4,000 reimbursement for support for the study on *Postsecondary and Labor Market Effects of Career and Technical Education in Baltimore City Public Schools*.
  - b. *Baltimore Education Research Consortium* - \$3,000 reimbursement for support for the continuation of the *2018 Launching into Adulthood* study.
  - c. Baltimore's Promise - \$4,800 reimbursement for the Grads2Careers program evaluation.
  - d. *Montgomery College* - \$4,000 for costs associated with fulfilling a data request by Montgomery College on their graduates by program HEGIS codes. The requested analyses include (1) an examination of the industry sector; (2) median quarterly wages 1, 3, and 5 years out; and (3) disaggregation by race/ethnicity, gender, and county.

**Board Action:** Requesting procurement authorization.